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09/731,623	12/07/2000	Debora Rinkevich	AUS920000706US1	1062

35525 7590 07/28/2006		EXAMINER
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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 09/731,623
Filing Date: December 07, 2000
Appellant(s): RINKEVICH ET AL.

Duke W. Yee
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 25 April 2006 appealing from the

Office action mailed 16 February 2006.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct. However, the status of the claims have been changed as follows:

(a) Claims objected to: 7, 15 and 23 (these claims are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

(b) The rejections of claims 6, 14 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, have been withdrawn in view of Applicant's Appeal Brief filed 25 April 2006.

(c) Claims 1 – 6, 8 – 14, 16 – 22 and 24 are maintained under the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of Savill in view of Wu.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

(a) WITHDRAWN REJECTIONS

The following grounds of rejection are not presented for review on appeal because they have been withdrawn by the examiner: As per claim 6, 14 and 22, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, have been withdrawn in view of Applicant's Appeal Brief filed 25 April 2006.

(b) GROUND OF REJECTION

Claims 1 – 6, 8 – 14, 16 – 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Savill (Where can I find a Unix su like utility?) and in view of Wu (U.S. Patent No. 5,774,551).

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

John Savill: "Where can I find a Unix SU (substitute user) like utility?"

InstantDoc #15120 (December 10, 1999).

Wu et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,774,551

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

1.   Claim 1 – 6, 8 – 14, 16 – 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

as being unpatentable over Savill (Where can I find a Unix su like utility?) and in

view of Wu (U.S. Patent No. 5,774,551), hereinafter referred to as Wu.

As per claims 1, 9 and 17, Savill discloses an authentication method,

product and system comprising:

generating a first security context in response to a first user authentication

(Savill: Page 1 Line 2: the low privileged account is interpreted as the 1st security

context and the login / logoff must be involved generating the security context in

order to perform the user authentications),

generating a second security context in response to a second user

authentication (Savill: Page 1 Line 3: the higher privileged account is interpreted

as the 2nd security context and the login / logoff must be involved generating the

security context in order to perform the user authentications); However, Savil

does not disclose expressly said second security context aggregates said first

security context and a security context corresponding to an identity in said

second user authentication.

Wu teaches said second security context is an aggregate of said first

security context and a security context corresponding to an identity in said

second user authentication (Wu: Column 6 Line 65 Column 7 Line 1: stacking

multiple authentication services as taught by Wu is interpreted as aggregating

first security context into the second security context). Please also see the detail

rational of rejections set forth on Section (10) Response to Argument (Item# 1) of

this Examiner Answer for expanded Examiner arguments.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Wu within the system of

Savil because (a) Wu's reference resolves the problem presented by Savill to

avoid logoff existing user application account prior to logon to a new user

application account (Savil: Page 1 Line 4); where Wu teaches both of the existing

and new logical application accounts can be managed at the same time (Wu:

Column 2 Line 62 – 67: there is no need to logout all authentication services

before login another session) – See MPEP §2143.01, (b) Savil discloses the

needs of multiple login due to different type of works associated with the same

personnel, and (b) Wu teaches providing a simplified login embodiment using

automatic multi-login (i.e. unified logon) so that the same personnel need not

manually login multiple times for different types of works, which is substantially

improves in the ease of use of otherwise complex computer security systems

(Wu: Column 3 Line 56 – 57 and Column 4 Line 25 – 28).

As per claims 2, 10, and 18, Savil as modified teaches the claimed invention as described above (see claim 1, 9 and 17, respectively). Wu further teaches: saving said first security context (Wu: Column 3 Line 56 – 57).

As per claims 3, 11, and 19, Savil as modified teaches the claimed invention as described above (see claim 2, 10 and 18, respectively). Wu further teaches: saving said first security context comprises the step of pushing said first security context on a stack (Wu: Column 6 Line 64 – 67 and Column 7 Line 1 – 4).

As per claims 4, 12, and 20, Savil as modified teaches the claimed invention as described above (see claim 1, 9 and 17, respectively). Savil further teaches: receiving a user logoff (Savil: Page 1 Line 4).

As per claims 5, 13, and 21, Savil as modified teaches the claimed invention as described above (see claim 4, 12 and 20, respectively). Wu further teaches: destroying said second security context in response to said step of receiving said user logoff (Wu: Column 19 Line 60 – 64).

As per claims 6, 14 and 22, Savil as modified teaches the claimed invention as described above (see claim 2, 10 and 18, respectively). Savill teaches reverting to said first security context in response to a user logoff, wherein said first security context is then used to access security protected

resources by a user who issued the user logoff (Savill: Line 1 – 5: Savil teaches allowing the user to just _temporarily_ start the new application account so that the user can avoid closing all open application and logoff and therefore, after establishing and servicing combined multiple account service managements, the logoff would logout the _temporary_ new application first and thus revert back to the original user application account).

As per claims 8, 16, and 24, Savil as modified teaches the claimed invention as described above (see claim 1, 9 and 17, respectively). Wu further teaches: determining an access permission in response to said second security context (Wu: Column 3 Line 11 – 14 and Column 6 Line 17 – 22. TABLE 1, Column 17 Line 40 – 44, Column 10 Line 33 – 35 and Column 19, Line 54 – 56).

Allowable Subject Matter

The rejections of claim 7, 15 and 23 have been withdrawn after the review of Applicant's Appeal Brief filed 25 April 2006. These claims are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

(10) Response to Argument

In the instant appeal brief, Applellanthas the presented the following

arguments:

1. Claims 1 – 5, 8 – 13, 15 – 21 and 24: Wu expressly teaches

away any action in response to such (missing) second user

authentication, by its teaching of a unified, single user login.

Appellant alleged: "Wu's stacking of authentication services is not

done in response to a second authentication, but rather is pre-existing

and independent of any actual user authentication action; and

importantly, Wu expressly teaches away from a second user

authentication, or teaches away any action in response to such

(missing) second user authentication, by its teaching of a unified,

single user login". Examiner respectfully disagrees. In view of Wu's

reference, Wu's unified login does include the second user

authentication because (a) the first and the second user

authentications in the authentication security system, as recited in the

claim, are not necessary to be entered by the human user, which is

also consistent with the disclosure that appears in the appellant's

specification (Page 10, 2nd Para and Page 13, 4th Para) and (b) Wu's

unified login therefore invokes multiple logical authentication services

and the associated security contexts (or credentials) that are

dynamically built and aggregated during the run-time based upon the

control flag setting and the results of previous account management

services (Column 8 Line 44 – 67, Column 6 Line 65 – Column 7 Line 4,

Column 16 Line 19 – 32, Column 11 Line 28 – 34 and Column 25 Line

16 – 27 & Table 1). Therefore, by using Wu's stacking authentication

services, the security contexts are aggregated accordingly (i.e. multiple

application accounts can be co-existed and dynamically managed at

the same time) depending upon which authentications are invoked and

what credentials are created during the run-time and as such Wu does

not teach away from a second user authentication by its unified single

user login.

2. There would have been no motivation to combine Savill and Wu's references.

Appellant asserts that there would have been no motivation to

combine Savill and Wu's references. Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Wu's reference resolves the problem presented by Savill attempting to

avoid logoff existing user application account prior to logon to a new

user application account (Savill: Page 1 Line 4). See MPEP §2143.01

– There are three possible sources for a motivation to combine

references: the nature of the problem to be solved, the teachings of the

prior art, and the knowledge of persons of ordinary skill in the art. In re

Rouffet, 149 F.3d 1350, 1357, 47 USPQ2d 1453, 1457-58 (Fed. Cir.

1998). Examiner notes Wu is a nature of solving problems in Savill

because Wu teaches both of the existing and new user application

accounts can be managed at the same time (Wu: Column 2 Line 62 –
67: there is no need to logout all authentication services before login
another session) by using unified login with stacking authentication
services that invokes multiple logical authentication services and
dynamically builds and aggregates associated security contexts (or
credentials) during the run-time based upon the control flag setting and
the results of previous account management services (Column 8 Line
44 – 67, Column 6 Line 65 – Column 7 Line 4, Column 16 Line 19 –
32, Column 11 Line 28 – 34 and Column 25 Line 16 – 27 & Table 1).

**3. Claims 6, 14 and 22: Savill expressly teaches away from the
features of claim 6, by teaching a technique that avoids logoff.**

Appellant alleged: "Savill expressly teaches away from the features
of claim 6, by teaching a technique that avoid logoff". Examiner
respectfully disagrees. Examiner notes "avoid logoff" as alleged by
Appellant is interpreted in such a way that Savill discloses to avoid
closing / logoff all applications prior to running / login another
application (Savill: Page 1 Line 4 – 5), which is also very similar to the
purpose of starting a new session application without logout all existing
sessions, as taught by Wu (Column 2 Line 62 – 67). Furthermore,
Savill discloses to avoid closing / logoff all applications prior to running
/ login another application and allow the user to temporarily start
applications running in the security context of a different account

(Savill: Page 1 Line 4 – 5) and therefore, after establishing and

servicing combined multiple account service managements, the logoff

would logout the <u>temporary</u> new application first and thus revert back

to the original user application account and as such Savill does <u>not</u>

teach away from the features of claim 6 as alleged by Applicant.

4. Claims 7, 11, 15 and 23 have been reconsidered and allowed

over the prior arts of the record with respect to appellant's

argument.

<u>Note:</u> The appellant's statement of the status of EVIDENCE

APPENDIX after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner

in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

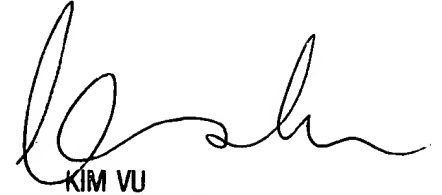For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be

sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Longbit Chai

Conferees:

Kim Vu

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